

The Chief of Police from Lancaster called this afternoon. His name is Larry Donnelly. The Osgood affair has reached a point where a police investigation is in order. He himself would have to initiate it. However there is one problem. He retires this Saturday (resigns actually to take a position elsewhere). He is afraid that if a non-Catholic comes in the whole thing might blow sky high. He feels something should be done within 24 hours to get him out of there. The Chief is a Catholic. Talk about Fr. Osgood and teenagers is common with the whole town. The image of the Church is tarnished. He is just sick over it, not knowing what to do. He finally called the Chancery just to relieve his conscience that at least he, as a Catholic, told his bishop about it ahead of time. Fr. Osgood has apparently made a friend of a person in Groveton who has similar problems. He has a key to that place and takes the boys up there. The Chief says that the rumors include explicit reference to physical contact. He feels that there may be a case now where there will be charges made by the parents. It is a hopeless situation. Catholic parents wanting to do something but not wanting to bring about a scandal and involving their son's names. The chief emphasized this is more than just gossip. This is a real bad situation.

Evaluation In my opinion if what the Chief claims is all false, even then the damage is so bad that Fr. Osgood's effectiveness in Lancaster is over. I honestly believe his effectiveness as a priest in this state is over.

R.E.M.